REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner acknowledge and consider the reference cited in the IDS filed herewith.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. New claims 32-42 are added by this reply. Claims 1, 12, and 32 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from Claims 1, 12, and 32.

Drawings

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to indicate whether the drawings filed on January 8, 2004 are acceptable.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 10, 11, and 19 are amended in this reply as discussed below. Claim 18 is amended to remove the word "substantially" to correspond to amendments made to claims 10-11 and 19. No new matter is added by these amendments as support for the amendments may be found, for example, in figure 5A, 5B, 6A, and 6B as well as on pages 32-34 of the application. None of the amendments are made to overcome any art cited by the Examiner.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 10, 11, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the

invention. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Specifically, the Examiner stated that the language "substantially compliant" as recited dependent claims 10, 11, and 19 "fails to particularly point out and distinctly claim the extent of compliance needed." Office Action mailed November 15, 2006 at page 2. These claims are amended to remove the word "substantially" to clarify the extent of compliance needed. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 1 is rejected under U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner asserts that the claimed invention is inoperative and therefore lacks utility because "the generated query is neither transmitted or executed." Office Action mailed November 15, 2006 at page 2. Claim 1 is amended to recite, in part, "transmitting said query to said source system." Thus, amended claim 1 recites that the generated query is transmitted. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is one basis for Applicants' response to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103: To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, "[f]irst, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." MPEP § 2143. Further, "all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." MPEP § 2143.03.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, 14, and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0120672 ("Bingham") in view of NPL Document, "PeerDB: A P2P-based System for Distributed Data Sharing" ("NG"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended and original claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully assert that Bingham in view of NG fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 12. Amended independent claim 1 recites an automated method of updating data within a peer-to-peer enterprise information system. Specifically, the automated method comprises, in part, "in response to said data change a join engine peer *accessing a global attribute object model* for identifying a *dependent* output entity, said output entity comprising a same attribute of said data change." Independent claim 12 recites similar limitations. The Examiner admits that Bingham "fails to expressly disclose a method wherein a join engine peer accesses a global attribute object model for identifying a dependent output entity." Office Action mailed November 15, 2006 at page 3. Instead, the Examiner relies on NG to disclose these limitations of claims 1 and 12.

NG is directed to a peer-to-peer distributed data sharing system, PeerDB. *See* NG at page 633, column 1. NG explicitly discloses that the users of PeerDB can "share data without a shared global schema." NG at page 633, column 2. Specifically, NG discloses that data is shared through use of *local* databases at each peer that describe only the contents of the *local* peer. *See* NG at page 636, column 1. Thus, NG cannot possibly disclose the use of a *global* attribute object model for identifying a *dependent* output entity as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 12.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that there is *no* motivation *whatsoever* for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Bingham with the teachings of NG. NG is directed to a peer-to-peer distributed data sharing system in which peers share data without a shared global schema. *See* NG at page 633, columns 1-2. In fact, NG criticizes, discredits, and discourages the use of prior peer-to-peer and distributed systems on the basis of being overly limiting precisely because the prior systems require the use of a predefined global schema (*e.g.*, a global attribute object model). *See* NG at page 633, column 2[*]; *see also* MPEP § 2145 X.D.1. More specifically, NG discusses shortcomings of systems with a predefined global schema, stating that the nodes are typically static and cannot join and leave the network at any time. *See* NG at page 634, column 1. Thus, NG clearly *teaches away* from the inventions of claims 1 and 12 which clearly require a global attribute object model. *See* MPEP § 2145 X.D.1. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would clearly not be motivated to combine the teachings of Bingham with the teachings of NG.

In view of the above, Bingham and NG, whether viewed separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 12. Accordingly, claims 1 and 12 are patentable over Bingham and NG for at least the reasons given above. Dependent claims 3-10, 14, and 16-18 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 12 and are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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[*] "However, most of these [peer-to-peer] systems are *limited* in several ways. . . . Unlike existing work on distributed data management, data may be shared without predefined schema." NG at page 633, column 2. "Second, in PeerDB, users can share data without a shared *global* schema." NG at page 633, column 2.

Claims 2, 4, 10-11, 13, 15 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bingham in view of NG and further in view of Official Notice. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As an initial matter, to the extent that the Examiner is relying on personal knowledge in taking Official Notice, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an affidavit of personal knowledge, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(d)(2). Alternatively, Applicants request that the Examiner cite appropriate prior art disclosing the noticed limitations.

As discussed above, Bingham and NG fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 12. Further, the Examiner's Official Notice does not provide what Bingham and NG lack as the Examiner only takes Official Notice of the limitations recited in dependent claims 2, 4, 10-11, 13, 15, and 19. *See* Office Action mailed November 15, 2006 at pages 5-6.

In view of the above, Bingham, NG, and the Examiner's Official Notice, whether considered separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 12. Thus, amended independent claims 1 and 12 are patentable over Bingham, NG, and the Official Notice. Claims 2, 4, 10-11, 13, 15, and 19 depend from claims 1 and 12 and, thus, are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 12. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.
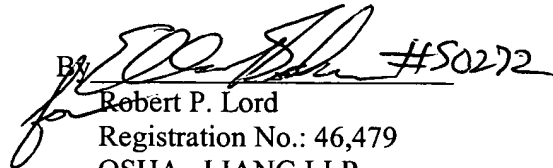
New Claims

Claims 32-42 are added by this reply. New claims 32-42 include similar limitations to claims 1-19 and, thus, are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, favorable action is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/443001; SUN030034).

Dated: March 15, 2007   Respectfully submitted,

By / _#50272_

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